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Joseph F. Hetz - Reg. No. 41,070

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature

Our Case No. 8285-430

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
 Gruchala et al.)
)
Serial No.: 09/844,716)
))
Filed: April 25, 2001)
))
For: Method and System for Providing)
 a Work-at-Home)
 Telecommunication Service)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit documents A1-A19 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of these documents are not provided since they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in prior application serial number 08/723,853, which is being relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute

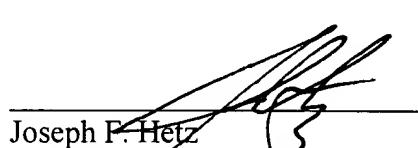
an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Further, Applicants reserve the right to contest that any of the information disclosed herein is prior art against the present application.

Applicants also note that in the Preliminary Amendment filed April 25, 2001, Applicants amended the specification and claims to make this application identical to U.S. patent application serial no. 09/032,087. The '087 application is also a continuation of the application serial number 08/723,853, which is being relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. There was an outstanding Office Action directed against the '087 application in which Claims 27-35, 38-49, 50-55, and 58-59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fleischer, III et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,974,133) in view of London (U.S. Patent No. 5,590,184) and further in view of Staples et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,889,845). Additionally, Claims 36-37 and 56-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fleischcer, III et al. in view of London and further in view of Bannister et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,548,636). Rather than file a three-month extension of time in the '087 application to respond to the outstanding Office Action, Applicants filed this continuation application of the '853 application to continue the prosecution of the claims.

Dated: July 16, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

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